

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6500
BILL NUMBER: SB 311

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 19, 2008
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Credit Time for Tutoring Inmates.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Broden
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Department of Correction (DOC) to establish, implement, and maintain an offender tutoring program. It provides that an offender who tutors other offenders and participates in the offender tutoring program may receive good-time credit.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: On October 15, 2008, 6,317 offenders were in Credit Class I, had either a high school diploma, a GED, or post-secondary education and could qualify for additional time reductions from their terms of incarceration if they are chosen to be trained to tutor other offenders. DOC indicated that staff in the DOC facilities would likely need to be reassigned to train tutors to effectively teach other offenders. The amount of time that might be needed to provide this training could range from 140 to 160 staff hours.

The average expenditure to house an adult offender was \$20,287 in FY 2008. (This does not include the cost of new construction.) If offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, the average cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$1,825 annually, or \$5 daily, per prisoner.

Background: On October 15, 2008, 25,012 offenders had a determinate sentence and were in Credit Class I. Offenders with determinate sentences have a minimum amount of time that they must be incarcerated before being released. They may receive time cuts for both good behavior and for completing educational, vocational, and substance abuse programs. Offenders who are in Credit Class I, which is the offender population that complies with DOC rules and regulations governing offender conduct, receive one day off

of their sentence for each day they remain in Credit Class I. In order for offenders to receive cuts for completing educational and vocational programs, they must be in Credit Class I.

Any additional reduction in offenders in DOC facilities will depend on how the programs under this bill would be implemented.

Unduplicated Count of Offenders in DOC Facilities on October 15, 2008, with a Post- Secondary Education, a High School Degree, or GED	
Degree/Diploma	Number of Offenders
Post-Secondary	3,898
GED and High School Diploma	<u>2,419</u>
Total	<u><u>6,317</u></u>

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DOC.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: John Nalley, DOC; Offender statistics.

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